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MARKET DRAYTON
URBAN DISTRICT.



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer
of Health

for 1937.

Market Drayton Urban District Council.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The death of your Medical Officer of Health has made it necessary for me to Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of your district for his last year in office.

The Birth rate shows a very satisfactory rise on that of 1936 and is well above the average for the Country. The Death rate remains about the same but the Infantile Mortality figures continue to show an increase on the average for your district and is also above the current rate for the country.

Infectious diseases show a marked drop due to the comparative absence of diphtheria.

Incorporated in this report is the work of the year of your Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. M. STEWART,

M.B., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Officers.

Medical Officer of Health A. MACQUEEN, M.D.
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor J. G. BAILEY.

Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (in acres) 	1390
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid 1937 	4865
Number of inhabited houses (end 1937) according to Rate Books 	1408
Rateable value 	£28598
Sum represented by a penny rate 	£111
Persons per acre calculated on the population ...	2.78

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—This market town, serving an extensive area, is dependent almost entirely on agriculture. Markets for farm produce are held weekly and are well patronised. The town is surrounded by pleasant well-wooded country and is within easy reach of Western industrial centres and the Potteries. There is a good service of trains and buses both to local and more distant parts, Secondary education is available and serves the needs of the surrounding Country.

Vital Statistics for 1937.

	M.	F.	Totals	
Live Births: Legitimate	50	40	90	} Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 20.5
Illegitimate	3	7	10	
Stillbirths: Legitimate	6	1	7	} Rate per 1000 total (live and still) birth 65.4
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Deaths all causes 86. Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 17.6				
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	1
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	9.3
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	1
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	9.3
Total	...	...	...	2 18.6
Death rate of infants under one year of age:—				
All infants per 1000 live births	90	...	...	9 deaths
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	88	...	...	8 deaths
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	100	...	...	1 death
Deaths from Cancer, all ages	...	...	...	14
Deaths from Measles, all ages	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough, all ages	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	—

POPULATION.—The estimated Mid Year population shows an increase of 34 on the same population for 1936.

BIRTHS.—The number of live births for 1937 (100) shows an increase of 20 on 1936. The rate 20.5 compares with 16.5 for 1936 and 14.9 for England and Wales (1937).

DEATHS.—The number of deaths was 86 (M 49, F 37) compared with 83 for 1936.

The crude death rate 17.6 after considering the areal comparability factor 0.83 (supplied by the Registrar General) gives an adjusted death rate of 14.6 per 1000 population. The rate for 1936 unadjusted was 17.1 and the rate for England and Wales for 1937 is 12.4.

The principal causes of death were:—

Nephritis	5
Congenital Debility and Prematurity	3
Senility	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	9
Heart Disease	17
Bronchitis	3
Pneumonia	7
Forms of Violence (not suicide)	3
Other causes excluding infective conditions	14

Infective Conditions:—

Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Tuberculosis (non pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

The most noteworthy figures are those of cancer which show a considerable rise for the year and the absence of deaths from diphtheria or scarlet fever.

Death rate from Cancer:—

1936	...	...	1.65	per 1000	population.
1937	...	...	2.87	per 1000	population.

Death rate from Tuberculosis:—

1936	...	...	.62	per 1000	population.
1937	...	...	.20	per 1000	population.

Infantile Mortality rate:—

1930-35	...	...	68.9	per 1000	live births.
1936	...	...	75	per 1000	live births.
1937	90	per 1000	live births.

England and Wales:—

1937	58	per 1000	live births.
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Section B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:—

(1) See first page of Report.

(2) Laboratory facilities: Birmingham University still carries out all bacteriological and pathological examination under the County Council Scheme as there is no County Laboratory.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—A modern ambulance meets the requirements of the town and the Drayton Rural District satisfactorily. Buildings available as Mortuaries are to be found at the Cottage and Isolation Hospitals.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.—There is a modern up-to-date treatment centre for Maternity, Child Welfare and School Medical Service.

HOSPITAL.—The town has a Cottage Hospital and a Local Isolation Hospital meets the needs of the district.

Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE.—Water is supplied by the Market Drayton Water Company. A modern sewage disposal system serves the major portion of the town.

The following is an account furnished by the Surveyor of Sanitary work for the Year ending 31st December, 1937.

Certificates issued for water supply to new houses	17
Houses connected to public water supply	18
Repairs to public pumps and wells	4
New public wells	—
Private wells re-constructed or improved	3
Houses connected to public sewerage	16
Lengths of new sewers laid	—
Lengths of new water mains laid Private Company.	

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—A regular system of refuse collection at weekly intervals is maintained. Standard Sanitary Dustbins are being gradually enforced and few open air ashpits remain.

The following is an account furnished by the Sanitary Inspector of Sanitary work for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

a Number of houses which have been inspected during the above period, either in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease, or in consequence of complaints, or in the course of a systematic Sanitary Survey	254
Number of legal notices sent	2
Number of informal notices sent	36
Number of such notices complied with	32
Number of letters written	23

Particulars of Sanitary Matters referred to in the above Notices:—

(a) Houses to be disinfected after Infectious Disease	8
(b) Deficient or objectionable water supply	4
(c) New drains to be constructed or old drains to be amended	17
(d) New closets to be provided or old ones to be amended in construction	13
(e) Houses damp or dirty, or admitting rain, or weather or otherwise in a bad sanitary condition	15
(f) Offensive accumulations of all kinds	2
(g) Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	2
(h) Unsuitable refuse receptacles replaced with regulation dustbins	—
(i) Filthy or verminous premises or articles cleansed	—
(j) Smoke nuisances	1
(k) Water courses, ditches, ponds and gutters foul or choked or silted up	3
(l) Nuisances arising from tents, vans, sheds or similar structures used for human habitation	2
(m) Dangerous Buildings Demolished	1
Houses disinfected after infectious disease (other than phthisis)	8
Houses disinfected in cases of phthisis	2
Privies converted to water closets	16
Privies converted to earth closets	—

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.—An open air Bath or Pool serves the district. This is under constant supervision and is treated with Chloros.

SCHOOLS.—No Schools were closed for infectious diseases in the year.

Section D. Housing.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—*

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 286 |
| | (b) | Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... | 310 |
| (2) | (a) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | 32 |
| | (b) | Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... | 56 |
| (3) | | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 9 |
| (4) | | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respect reasonably fit for human habitation | 24 |

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	17
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—*

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 17 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:— | |
| | (a) by owners | 17 |
| | (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | — |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | — |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— | |
| | (a) by owners | — |
| | (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | — |

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | — |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | — |

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
4.	<i>Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—</i>	
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	35
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	35
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	265
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	—
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	5
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	41
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding...	
	Houses in course of erection for abatement of overcrowding.	
(e)	Plans for new houses passed	17

Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Inspection of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops for the Year ended 31st December, 1937.

Number of cowkeepers and milksellers on register	12
Number of premises—cowsheds	18
dairies	9
milkshops	—

Number of above cowkeepers and milksellers who hold licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, in respect of:—

	Tuberculin		
	Tested	Accredited	Pasteurised
(a) establishments of producers and bottlers		2	
(b) establishments of producers only			
(c) establishment of bottlers only			
(d) shops or other establishments not being the establishment at which the milk is produced or bottled			
(e) supplementary licences to sell milk from shops or other establishments outside the area of the licensing authority			1
Number of Inspections			60

Defects found (1) in cowsheds:—

(a) floor or cubic space	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(b) ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(c) lighting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(d) structure of floor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(e) drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(f) cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(2) in surroundings of cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(3) in sanitary condition of drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(4) in sanitary condition of milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(5) in water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of notices—verbal and written	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of these notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Number of defects found and not yet remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

The following is an Account Furnished by the Sanitary Inspector of Meat Inspection for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

				Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs.
				excluding cows			& Lambs	
Number killed (if known)	...	...	—	75	—	143	111	
Number inspected	...	...	—	75	—	143	111	
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>								
Whole carcases condemned	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcases condemned	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	—	1 Head	—	—	—	—

1. Number of Slaughter Houses in district—Five.

2. Number of persons licensed to stun and slaughter animals in slaughter houses and knackers' yards—Fourteen.

3. Action taken with regard to inspections of slaughter houses, shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared—Slaughter Houses, Bakehouses and Markets are inspected periodically.

4. Remarks—Nil.

Section F. Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

The incidence of infectious diseases in the district shows great improvement on the preceding year—this is due chiefly to the fall in the number of cases of diphtheria. This disease should be further controlled by the adoption of a diphtheria immunisation scheme in the district. Up to date the response to this scheme has been very gratifying and the preventive means adopted should be reflected in future years.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease				Total cases	Notified	Cases ad.
				1936	1937	to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3	3	3
Diphtheria	...	...	...	26	3	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	3	3	0
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	0	1	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	2	3	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	0	1	0

Age Incidence	S. Fever	Diphth.	Pneum.	Puerperal		Acute
				Fever	Erysipelas	Poliomyelitis
5—10 years	2	2	0	0	0	0
15—20 „	1	1	0	0	1	1
20—35 „	0	0	2	1	1	0
35—45 „	0	0	0	1	0	0
45—65 „	0	0	1	0	0	0

Tuberculosis.

New cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age	New Cases.				Deaths.	
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Respiratory	Respiratory
15—25 years	1	0	0	0	0	0
25—35 „	1	0	0	0	0	0
35—45 „	0	1	0	0	0	1
55—65 „	1	1	0	0	0	0
Over	1	0	0	0	0	0

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises.	Number of		
	Written		Occupiers
	Inspections	Notices	prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	5	0	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	12	0	0
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	48	0	0
	65	0	0

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Defects		H.M.	Prose-
	found	remedied	Inspector	cutions
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	0	0

